TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

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we go forward with this bill? I guess we could not go forward with this bill and stay the same. But the other is, if we do move carrier enforcement officers into the State Patrol, should they be treated differently from any other type of job within the State Patrol? We have investigators. We have grant We have people doing background checks. troopers on the highways. You have people in lots of different types of jobs in the patrol. This would just be adding to that list, and their compensation would be the result of their rank, just like any other position within or any other trooper within One of the things in our discussions that the division. convinced me that we shouldn't silo this division, which, to be honest with you was one of the ideas that I had going in, was because this is a management issue that we should leave to the manager of that division. Now, as a Legislature, we can say they can't be the manager the same way they are to the rest of the division as they are ... or divisions as they are to carrier enforcement division. But I would say, why not? not let this division move into the patrol and be treated the same as any other type of function within the patrol, rather than segregate it out? And I think that I respected the view of the other manager types in the group, not that you can...you can all have your own view, however you want to make it, but after listening to people who manage law enforcement agencies, I came to the conclusion, which was the unanimous conclusion of patrol, of the patrol task force, that rather than tie this up with some statutory language, we should leave that to the colonel of the division and the Governor, who has the ultimate responsibility of the executive branch. Another thing I want to address is, are carrier enforcement officers seen as some kind of lesser position within the State Patrol? And I thought maybe that was one of the reasons, less prestige, perhaps, as a perception. And in talking to people from the patrol, I was surprised to find that that pretty much wasn't the case, that there are lots of different jobs in the patrol. Maybe in our minds, we see people going into crime scenes and shoot-outs, but there are a lots and ...

SENATOR COORDSEN: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...lots of positions within the State Patrol,